



The Bergh Apton Newsletter



SCHOOL HEAD TERESA OSBORNE TO RETIRE



Teresa Osborne, Head of Alington and Bergh Apton VA School, our village primary school, retires at the end of this current term.

Under her ten-year leadership the school has undergone significant change in teaching standards, facilities and the number of pupils that she inherited from her predecessor Neil Henery whom Teresa acknowledges as having set in place the process of change that, five years into Teresa's tenure of office (in 2015), resulted in the school's "Outstanding" OFSTED rating.

Teresa, a Buckinghamshire girl, entered her teaching career via UEA, developing her skills both as a teacher and a leader in six Norfolk schools before she came to Alington at the beginning of the first term of 2010.

Since then the school has expanded to accommodate a fifth class by adapting the original Victorian schoolroom and building a new £350,000 Assembly Hall. These changes have allowed the school to grow its population of pupils from 95 to 135. Teresa's team that develops these children's talents and education comprises a seven-strong teaching staff, eight teaching assistants, the school administrator and her assistant.

The building of the new Assembly Hall is a good indicator of the confidence shown in Teresa by the school's Governors who had to find 10% - £35,000 - of the build cost (the balance coming from the Church of England, responsible for sourcing the balance of the capital required for all projects at Norfolk's Voluntary Aided schools).

Teresa is married to retired head teacher David. Their three sons and four grandchildren live in Kent, London and the Home Counties so retirement will give them all the opportunity to be together more and, for Teresa and David, freedom to travel more.

Teresa's successor Rosalie Welch is a teacher at Acle school. She will assume her duties as Head of our school in January.

A very happy Christmas to you all from all who help to edit, fund, print and distribute the Bergh Apton Newsletter

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QUIZ & CHILLI NIGHT - THE RESULTS

Bergh Apton's finest minds, on the night the clocks went back to GMT, assembled in the village hall on Saturday 26th October to compete for the accolade "Brains of Bergh Apton" in this annual fundraiser to support the life of our parish church.

Eight rounds, devised by John Ling and posed by Milton Harris, ranged across questions from "Who wrote *Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum*"? (answer: *The venerable Bede*) to "What were carried up the aisle of Westminster Abbey during Ronnie Barker's Memorial Service"? (answer: *four candles!*).

Milton Harris teased the competitors with his "Table Round" in which he asked the teams to identify the correct Group names for 26 animals alphabetically listed from Aardvarks (answer: *an Armory*) to Zebras (answer: *a Dazzle*).

Pat Waters' Happy Gang won with a total score of 93 points - 29 points better than The Toffs who took away the Wooden Spoon. The difference of merely 3 points per round shows that The Toffs can still hold their heads up high (tho' not quite as high) as The Happy Gang.

This was the second year that chilli baked potatoes were served as the interval supper - a delicious and hugely less costly alternative provided by a team of village cooks to whom the organisers are most grateful. Easier to organise and serve than the bought-in fish and chips of previous years, they're a less an overhead cost, and they avoid the need to dispose of 70-80 polystyrene boxes. That's known as a win-win-win situation!

The evening raised £646 to help meet the costs of maintaining both the life and the material condition of our parish church.

Thanks go from the PCC to John Ling and Milton Harris for setting and asking questions and to Jane Yallop and Shirley who marked the answers. More thanks to Hilary Ling and her team of cooks who provided those delicious chilli potatoes and to Pat Waters who ran the Raffle. And thanks, too, to all the heroes who helped to set up, wash up and to clear away the chairs, tables and all the paraphernalia assembled for this fun evening.

We did ask all the team Captains if they had any photos of the event that we could publish. They all replied, in one way or another, that they were too busy trying to find the right answers!!!



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

First, my great thanks to Sally Leigh for donning the traditional green eye-shade to edit and publish the August and October editions of the Newsletter when Hilary and I deserted all of you to swan around the world for three months.

My thanks, too, to contributors whose articles save this Newsletter from being a very dull production. It would be great if there were more of you!

If space and other factors call for editing it's not always possible to publish articles as sent but I will always send to you revised text that meets the need for you to accept or develop.

That's the editor's function. As I may have observed before, even best-selling authors including Jeffrey Archer (whose editor completely revised his initial drafts) would not have been published without the editor's input.

Starting on p.5 is a special article by Christopher Meynell on the turmoil in Cyprus - exactly 56 years ago - as ethnic Greek and Turk islanders attacked each other in the days before and after Christmas 1963. This overall summation of those events follows two earlier articles this year (in February and April) about a time when many Cypriots died. Negotiations between three NATO allies concluded a deal that brought the United Nations in to 'oversee' peace on this island so many of us know as a sunny holiday venue. With thanks to Christopher for his financial support, I hope you will value this comprehensive summary of this major international event by one of those closest, as they say, to the coal face.

Also in this edition is the obituary, longer than the norm, of Poppy Annis. It reflects her standing as a beloved and invaluable member of this community whose contribution to the life of Bergh Apton was rich, joyful and immense.

We learned of the deaths of two more good citizens of Bergh Apton - Lady Ann MacKenzie at 99 yrs, and Audrey Harvey at 87 yrs - both great contributors to the life of this village. Lady Ann lived at The Manor with her husband the late Major Colin who both supported many of our activities. Audrey, a long-serving leading light of the church, village hall and Fete, lived with her husband George on White Heath Road.

We will tell you something of both these long-and-well-lived lives in the February Newsletter.

BERGH APTON & DISTRICT SOCIETY JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020 PROGRAMME

For your diary, a "Heads Up" for the Society's meetings at the beginning of the New Year:

8th January: Robert Knee on "Edward Paston & the Secret Music"

12th February: Angela Bishop on "Tradesmen & Street Sellers"

Society Meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

CHRISTMAS BINGO

FRIDAY 6th DECEMBER

at

BERGH APTON VILLAGE HALL

Doors open 7.00pm

for 7.30pm start

Families welcome

BYO refreshments



POPPY ANNIS RIP

In his Eulogy at the packed funeral service of Poppy Annis in Bergh Apton's parish church on 24th October, Kevin Parfitt (on whose text, with thanks, this obituary is based) observed that Poppy would have been amazed by the number of people come to pay their respects and to comfort Peter and his family. Kevin surmised rightly that she, beloved and respected by so many, would be the only one to be amazed.



Margaret Nancy Whiteland was born on 24th July 1937 in Bungay, the third of six children. Her name Poppy originated in her trying to pronounce the name "Popeye" one of their neighbours teasingly called her seafaring father. In the way of children, she invented her own alternative and the delighted family adopted it as her own name.



(above) The Whiteland children in a studio family portrait (l-r) June, Poppy, Ronnie and Carol. Poppy (left) as a teenager with that memorable smile that stayed with her throughout her joyful life.

After school, first at the local Catholic school and then the Area school, Poppy's first job was in service at Ditchingham House, followed by stints in Bungay at Whitelands (the family's china shop), the local Dry Cleaners and finally at Griffens Fruit & Veg stores. A visit to her Aunt Daisy in Brooke, at the end of which she and a friend missed the bus back to her home in Throckmorton Road, off Annis Hill in Bungay, was to change all that for ever.

The girls' salvation, as they sat outside the Kings Head waiting for the next bus, lay in young Bergh Apton lad Peter Annis who had just filled his new Morris Minor up with petrol at the garage opposite the pub. Seeing two attractive young ladies in trouble, Peter offered to drive them back to Bungay. Conversation on the journey between Poppy and Peter led to the revelation that her home was just off a

BERGH APTON PARTISH COUNCIL NEWS

By Angie Tregear, our new Parish Clerk

At the end of September I unexpectedly (and a little apprehensively!) agreed to take on the role of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Bergh Apton Parish Council. With a background in teaching I hoped that some of the skills involved in this line of work would be transferrable to my new role as Parish Clerk!

After attending some excellent induction training on the role of the clerk and councillors, a course on budget setting and with lots of support from my predecessor, Julie Gosling I now feel equipped to deal with most eventualities and am finding the work both interesting and enjoyable. I look forward to supporting the councillors in their work for the benefit of the village.

SUMMARY OF THE RECENT COUNCIL MEETING

The most recent Parish Council meeting was on 22nd October in the village hall. Members of the public are always welcome at meetings and it was lovely to see four parishioners present, one of whom was co-opted to serve as a new councillor to fill an existing vacancy.

Two of the main topics discussed at the meeting were the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) and concerns about traffic and speeding within the village:

The Greater Norwich Local Plan will provide the planning strategy and identify the sites for growth across the three districts of Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk until 2038. The majority of the growth will be focussed in and around Norwich but there will be some growth in the surrounding towns, villages and rural areas.

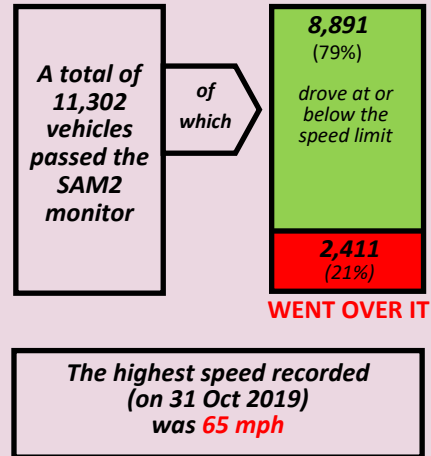
Our District Councillor, John Fuller, was in attendance at the meeting and he explained that the publication of the GNLP draft consultation document has now been put back to January 2020 but he gave an update on what is known so far: villages feeding into a school would form a cluster – in our case this would probably consist of Yelverton, Alington and Bergh Apton - and the best guess is that they will share about 40 houses across two sites of about 15 to 20 each. Currently nine possible sites have been put forward in Bergh Apton. There will be a short list decided after Christmas with preference given to brown field sites.

Concerns have been expressed by parishioners about speeding in the village. John Fuller explained that there is already a queue of villages waiting for new speed limits, as these have to be advertised and surveyed. Highways England and satnav providers have to be informed etc and this takes time and money.

Capacity for enforcement is one of the criteria for obtaining a new speed limit and Cllr Fuller suggested asking County Councillor, Barry Stone, to provide check list of criteria for the introduction of new speed limits and also revisiting the Council's speed management strategy..

In the meantime, a team of volunteers are continuing to collect data via the SAM2 speed monitoring machine, which is recording some shockingly high speeds of up to 65mph through the village (5.50pm on 31st October 2019 on Threadneedle Street. See the graph (top right)

BERGH APTON SPEED SENSOR READINGS DURING 7 OCT-3 NOV 2019 LOCATION 3-THREADNEEDLE ST



The Council is very grateful to the team of volunteers involved in the movement and maintenance of SAM2. The data collected will hopefully strengthen our case for further speed restrictions and/or traffic calming measures in the future, as well as reminding motorists to watch their speed.

NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The councillors will be considering next year's budget at the meeting on Tuesday 7th January. Therefore, could any requests for funding from village organisations be sent to the Clerk as soon as possible, please.

A CASUAL VACANCY!

Following the resignation of John Ling from the Parish Council a vacancy has arisen for a new councillor. Applications are encouraged from anyone in the parish who is eligible to stand. If you would like to put your name forward for this rewarding role please email or write to the Clerk, including a few details about yourself and what you would hope to achieve as a Parish Councillor.

Current Parish Councillors are: David Skedge (chair), Hugh Porter (vice chair), Janet Skedge, Steve Whitby, Ian Ratcliffe and new councillor, Sheridan Winn.

Dates of Future Meetings: Tuesday 7th January, Tuesday 4th February, Annual Parish Meeting 31st March, Annual General Meeting 21st April.

Clerk: Angela Tregear, 55 Bussey Bridge, Bergh Apton, Norwich, NR15 1DF

Telephone: 01508 484133

Email: clerk@berghapton.org.uk

WASHINGTON HOUSE COFFEE MORNING

on Thursday 17th October

From Paris Back and Liz Lester

We would like to thank all those who donated, attended, ran stalls and gave their time on the day. We raised £2,234.75 for Priscilla Bacon Hospice and The Brooke.

Without your support, this couldn't have happened.

SAID, "NO, NO, NO" (Lyrics by Amy Winehouse, whose life and talented career were blighted and finally ended prematurely by substance abuse).

In October 2018 a redundant food-testing laboratory was about to undergo a total transformation des-



tinued to reshape
any number of
damaged lives. In
a year the
astounding vision



- An art studio, library area, new toilet block, laundry and shower room and one-to-one counselling rooms.
- An IT suite and a skills and employability workshop, teaching a range of skills such as woodworking and bicycle repair to those in recovery.
- A training kitchen and café, where service users can build their cooking and barista skills.
- Multifunctional spaces for physical exercise, activities and socialisation.

The training kitchen was put into full use by members of the recovery programme to produce a fantastic spread. Brave testimonies were given by two graduates of TMP's Recovery Support Programme, both of whom had previously attempted to overcome their destructive habits. Kaz - a young mother and former drug abuser, and Cameron – a successful businessman whose marriages had been destroyed by alcohol addiction. Movingly they each recounted how previous attempts to recover their lives had stumbled after initial rehabilitation, and explained how TMP's approach



To discover more, visit The Mathew Project website
<https://www.mathewproject.org/>

street with his surname. It was a trigger that led to romance and the rest, as Kevin said in church, is history.



Marriage on 6th April 1957 at Holy Trinity Bungay meant moving to Orchard View and the market garden on The Street in Bergh Apton where her work with Griffens in Bungay stood her in good stead and Poppy quickly made life-long friends amongst those who worked as her husband's fruit pickers.

First Jayne and then Robert were born and grew up at Orchard View. Jayne brought Jim into the family and presented Peter and Poppy with grandsons James and Jack. Robert and Fran, with the birth of their sons Liam and Ben, brought the family group strength up to ten.

Great friendships with her neighbours developed, including a particularly firm one with Dot and Kenny Seeley and their children at Veranda Cottage. The families even went on beach holidays together in Great Yarmouth (where one tale is told of Poppy's shoes being buried in the sand, never to be found again).

Poppy's work as a Carer, from the early 1970s until her retirement at the age of 72, led to special relationships being formed with many of her charges and her going above & beyond her designated duties through such things as taking home their washing.

She was able to deal with the occasional awkward client with that charming smile and cheerful attitude.

Both in the family and amongst her friends Poppy had a reputation for being a little accident prone and, with that, capable of creating gales of laughter in incidents such as one on a family outing to Lakeside in Essex where she and her sister Carol became convinced that they were stuck in a lift. It was some time before they twigged that they needed to press the "Open Doors" button to get out!

Outings with the Bergh Apton Society also produced memorable "Poppy-isms" including a visit to Chatsworth where Poppy, seeing a woman walking her dog on a lawn that was clearly signed 'Please keep off the grass', commented "You'd have thought that woman could read" whereupon the woman in question turned to smile at the comment, revealing herself as the Duchess of Devonshire, the estate's owner!



Poppy, far right, with (l-r) Shelagh Yallop, Jill Emms, Fred Littlewood, Sandra Sillett (without his specs!), Ted Armiger and Violet Littlewood in Edwardian (or perhaps Victorian?) dress for the Bergh Apton Fete of 1985 at The Manor.

Another memorable event closer to home was a Bergh Apton Society visit to Cromer for the "End of the Pier show". Returning to their coach after the show Bergh Apton's theatre-goers saw Poppy and her sister Carol settling down in seats on an adjacent coach, happily oblivious of their mistake!

Poppy's giggles when she was safely back on the Bergh Apton coach is an example of her ability to laugh at herself and the exuberance with which she found amusement in so many aspects of life. It is one of the

lovable things about her that will remain with her many friends.

She loved being involved in village activities including the Fete whose White Elephant Stall is the Annis family domain, and with events at the Village Hall including jumble sales of which she was the master overseer (and occasional model when needed for hats and other outfits). She was for many years an active and plain-speaking Trustee on the Village Hall's management committee.

But Poppy's greatest love was her family, not just here

in Norfolk and Suffolk but all over the world where its members have settled in the USA, Australia and, more recently, in New Zealand where there is even a Grand Niece named Poppy.

Poppy Annis loved life and all that it contained. She was a loving wife and great support to Peter and loved making her house a warm family home. She loved cosy open fires during the winter months and vases of fresh flowers in the windows in the Spring and Summer. She loved having visitors and their dogs that were always welcomed.

This is how people will remember Poppy; always smiling, always putting others first and always believing that, whatever the problem may be, "anything can be resolved over a good cup of tea".



Poppy and a "good cup of tea" in the village hall. Lynton Johnson talks to Peter, Robert and Poppy at what looks to be a Bergh Apton Society lunch - or possibly a New Year Breakfast? Does anyone know which it is?

CYPRUS PART 3

By Christopher Meynell

In the first two parts, written for the Bergh Apton Magazine, I described how the Inter-communal difficulties in Cyprus in late 1963 led to the formation of a Joint Truce Force commanded by Major General Peter Young, OC UK Land Forces in Cyprus - to whom I was ADC. The Force acted as 'referee' between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots who were intent on killing sprees in the pursuit of power.

It was the first occasion that British Forces had been called upon to "Keep the Peace" and the word "Joint" in the title of this tri-partite force indicated that it comprised military units of Britain, Greece and Turkey, the three Guarantors of the Island's Independence Constitution of 1960, all of whom were members of NATO but of whom the Greeks and Turks could so easily have come to war over the Cyprus question.

At the conclusion of the previous part of this tale I described how we had established our Joint Force HQ at the Cornaro Hotel that was ideally situated on the Green Line that divided the Greek and Turkish sides. It faced south towards the Central Prison where the Greek Cypriots were well ensconced and north to the Golf Course where the Turks had dug trenches into and around its bunkers that are just visible in my shot (below) taken from a helicopter.



As time went on this HQ became better manned and equipped to carry out the job we had been set to do.

Having now established the scene, I'd like to go back in time by a few days to just before and immediately after Christmas 1963 and write about how matters developed following the outbreak of the violence and killings perpetrated by both sides. It is a good illustration of how diplomacy and tact can lead from outright hostilities to a nervous peace brokered between the warring islanders.

In the first instalment I described our rather difficult reception by the (Turkish Cypriot) Vice-President Küçük at his house in the Turkish quarter of Nicosia soon after we arrived in the island's Capital following our hasty journey from the British Base to intervene at the request of the island government.

Our reception a few days later by the (Greek Cypriot) President Makarios was quite, quite different when we went to see him at about five o'clock in the evening after a day of discussions between General

Peter Young, Duncan Sandys (Britain's Minister of Commonwealth Relations) Sir Arthur Clarke (British High Commissioner in Cyprus) and Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Barnett (C-in-C UK Forces in Cyprus).

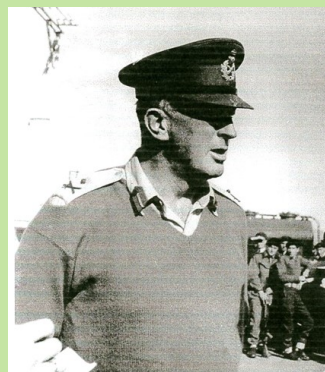
When we arrived at the Presidential Palace (the Governor's Residence prior to independence) south of the City, General Young was received with a 'Full Turn-out and Present' by the Cyprus Army Presidential Guard and he was greeted under the portico by a Greek Cypriot Minister.

In a grand reception room His Beatitude, Archbishop Makarios (who had been 'demonised' for years in Britain and whom the British government had even, for a time, banished from the island to Mauritius) rose to greet us in a most friendly manner and introduced his assembled Ministers: Araouzos (Commerce & Industry) Solomides (Finance) Kyprianou (Foreign Affairs), Andreas Papadopoulos (Communications & Works) Stella Soulioti (Justice), Tassos Papadopoulos (Labour & Social Insurance), Georgiadis (Interior) and Clerides (President of the House of Representatives) of whom four, in due time, would themselves become President of Cyprus.

So here assembled to greet us (except for Dr Küçük and the three Turkish Ministers holed up in the Turkish Quarter) was the entire Cabinet of the Government of Cyprus!

Despite the crisis and while purposeful, this was a meeting whose calm atmosphere may well have been assisted by assurances given to the President by Duncan Sandys (who was not present) following his earlier phone call to the Turkish Government in Ankara that lessened the chance of a Turkish invasion. Unlike the earlier meeting with Vice-President Küçük that had been a formal 'boardroom table' affair, this was a far more relaxed meeting whose members sat in easy chairs around the room, and were served with coffee.

Following this constructive meeting and as a result of the crucial overnight conference chaired by Duncan Sandys⁽¹⁾ in the British High Commission (that I described in the April Newsletter) agreement was reached for the establishment of the Green Line.



Peter Young briefing the Press, Boxing Day 1963. Our escort group in the background includes Mac & Moss

At this point I should write something about Major General Peter Young whose extraordinary strength of will had been a major factor in achieving this agreement, albeit at the expense of his voice that had almost disappeared as a result of a lack of sleep and an overdose of talking, arguing, discussing, berating and also listening to every faction in this sorry state of affairs since he had arrived in Nicosia on Boxing Day - four days earlier. Here is a brief side-track to define this remarkable man:

He had been a "Para", after service in the Ox & Bucks Light Infantry (my Regiment too) and took part in the Allied airborne invasion of Sicily in 1943, but

broke his leg on landing. Having crawled to a shed where his only company for three days were some pigs, he was 'unearthed' by Germans and taken prisoner. Whilst communing with the pigs, he had determined to get home, but realized his leg made that well-nigh impossible. He decided to feign deafness and so be repatriated as a non-combatant.

At his POW camp his captors tried everything to "prove" his affliction including firing a pistol close to him but, somehow and with immense self-control and will-power, he managed to carry off the pretence so successfully that he was repatriated to continue the fight!

This experience, however, did have a downside for people who worked with him subsequently because, if he decided he didn't want to listen, he would simply switch-off and go into 'deaf' mode when nothing, nobody, nada, would be able to get through. So negotiating with him could be interesting!!

But, let's get back to 1963 and that agreement by all sides on the route of the Green Line. Having grabbed an hour's catnap, General Young called his hastily cobbled team together and, in his own words "At 7am I gave out what must have been rather inarticulate orders. My voice had given out with all the talking of the last sleepless 24 hours".

Michael Perret-Young (MPY), the General's Intelligence adviser, wrote; "True the General was hoarse, but with the Agreement (typed up by the High Commissioner's secretary) and marked maps, his briefing, plan and orders were quite clear. We were in session for something like two hours."

The three key elements of this briefing were:

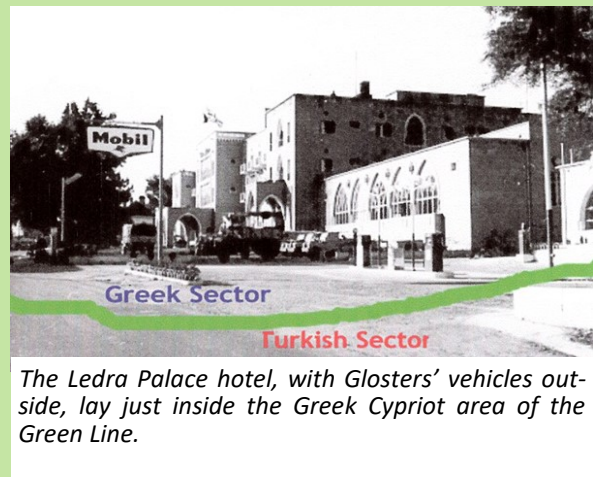
- (a) To restore confidence so the population on both sides could relax with no fear of attack.
- (b) British alone to supervise the cease fire.
- (c) Essential that the Joint Force (us) be neutral even if force is necessary.

The British army units in the Joint Truce Force were 3rd Greenjackets and the Glosters, with support from a Wing of the RAF Regiment. Together they had a massive area to cover in which to be effective but they managed, within a few hours, to implement the General's plan.

This was not simply a question of walking in and setting up. Every area had its own Greek or Turkish Cypriot leader who must be met and "informed" of what was to happen. The situation was complicated by the requirement that, much against their will, but as part of the Agreement, the gunmen of the two sides must withdraw. By three o'clock much of the Nicosia Green Line had been cleared and patrolling commenced.

General Young, Michael Perret-Young and I visited the Ledra Palace (see top of next column) that had, up until then, been the most luxurious Hotel on the island that had become a focal point for recent fighting and was now bullet-spattered and scarred. The top floor, that overlooked the City walls, had been taken over by the Glosters as their HQ and had a good view of the Turkish lines to the north and those of the Greeks to the south, both extensively sandbagged.

Little did we know, at the time, that the makeshift barricade erected outside the hotel was to become the official crossing point between Turkish



The Ledra Palace hotel, with Glosters' vehicles outside, lay just inside the Greek Cypriot area of the Green Line.



Jumping the Nicosia barricade from Greek zone to Turkish, on what became the Green Line.

Cypriot North and Greek Cypriot South . . . and it still is!!

As we were about to leave the General noticed, a civilian-suited gent wearing a bow tie hovering, . "Who's that, and what's he doing here?" he asked. A Glosters officer whispered "a BBC reporter, Robin Day". "Never heard of him" said the General!²

Our little party left to go on a personal recce of the Greek & Turkish quarters; to show the flag and monitor the deployment of the

Joint Truce Force. An

hour later we received a report of the first supply convoy reaching the Nicosia Turkish quarter. Küçük personally thanked the Corporal in charge of the convoy whilst appealing for more clothing and blankets, especially in the outlying villages.

The General again, "Dead bodies were collected from the areas of No Man's Land we now controlled, to be identified where possible and buried. The first steps to the keeping of peace in Cyprus have been taken. The immediate danger of further large scale fighting in Nicosia had been removed".

Küçük's appeal brought home that, whilst we had with the resources available been focused on the capital, all was far from well elsewhere. Meanwhile, on the international front, the Turkish Government in Ankara requested helicopter patrols to allay fears of villagers and the Greek Government in Athens complained about the mobilization of a Turkish army division (a lot of fire power!) in Southern Turkey, assuming it was about to invade.

Mike Gilmore, a Gloster who spoke Turkish, was Liaison Officer with the Turkish Army that was dug in by the road to Kyrenia. He recalled "It was clear that the greater part of the aggression was from the Greek Cypriots and the quick establishment of the Green Line in Nicosia by General Young was a major factor in limiting casualties, probably mainly Turkish Cypriots and an important step in preventing earlier Turkish intervention" – only 40 miles north, over the water.



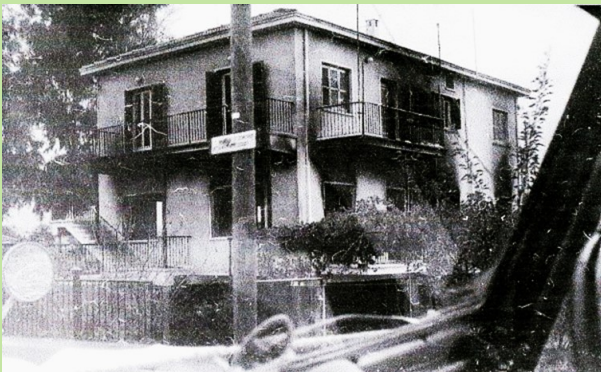
Major General Young with Col Sagan (Turkish Mainland Forces commander) and Mike Gilmour.

Actually, both sides of the Cyprus factions resorted to skulduggery to try to encourage 'Mainland' involvement. For instance, the young family of a Turkish army surgeon who was serving on the island was brutally murdered (the details are too graphic for family reading!). It was widely and initially assumed that the perpetrators were Greek Cypriots but it was curious there was no Turkish retaliation. Thus one, plausible, theory was that underground Turkish Cypriot irregulars had tried to provoke Ankara. They failed this time! But at what a price to pay!

The Joint Truce Force was very stretched indeed especially with the increasing numbers of "incidents" reported from all over the island and so there was great relief when reinforcements began to arrive from UK, Libya and Malta. These included a Parachute Brigade from UK, commanded by Brigadier (later Field Marshall) Roly Gibbs who was an old friend of General Young and was another former Rifleman.

The General's notes again; "Nor was our role of peace keeping an easy one. Our legal position was tenuous indeed. We were there in Cyprus at the request of the President and Vice President. The Greek Cypriot Police and the Turkish Cypriot Police, such as they were, occasionally cooperated with us when it was in their interests to do so. But as the Law Courts had ceased to function, those who the police did arrest were either freed or permanently retained in prison. I had decided from the start, I believe rightly, that we would only shoot in the last resort in self-defence or to protect vital property. Gradually the Greek Cypriots realised this and called our bluff, and the presence of troops became progressively less effective. But it was only in respect of the Green Line that I changed the order. Here I made it clear that any attacks across the Line by either side would be met by fire.

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A burnt-out house near the Green Line (Note the Greeks' obliteration of the Turkish version of the street name on the telegraph post).

This we most certainly would have done, but fortunately never had to. The emotional effect on the Greek Cypriot population, already stirred by the (local)

Press to an intense anti-British mood, of even a few deaths at British soldiers' hands was not something to be lightly risked'.

A couple of days later, the Green Jackets requested political assistance to defuse an ugly flare-up in their sector. At the General's bidding, Michael Perrett-Young sought out a Minister to try to get the Fighters to stand down. Eventually Tassos Papadopoulos agreed.

Michael Perrett-Young takes up the tale; "Christopher Meynell and I flew from the Cornaro and landed on the Palace's helipad. The Cyprus Army Guard 'turned out' and 'presented'; Tassos bustled out



Above: Christopher Meynell, Tassos Papadopoulos and Michael Perrett-Young arrive to negotiate with Greek Cypriot 'Fighters' at Kaimakli. This Greek Cypriot newspaper report of our helicopter visit included the suggestion by some that we had arrested the Minister!

of the main entrance, above which still showed the stone-cut British Royal Arms, and it looked as if we were off to a good start. Just as I was giving him a hand up, the pilot became agitated, metaphorically speaking barred the way, and said that RAF Regulations forbade the carriage of civilians without written authority! My unspoken reaction was '**** the Regulations, there's a war on'. I tore a sheet from my memo pad, wrote 'Flight authorised by the Joint Force Commander', and got Tassos to sign that he was flying at his own risk!

A hiccup, but the pilot was now satisfied, and we were off over the areas of fighting (not too low though!). For the record, the pilot in every other respect, was entirely helpful - his Flight, normally Rescue, had yet to adjust to a virtually Active Service role."

We touched down in numerous locations wherever the Minister thought something could be achieved; dealing with one villainous group of 'Fighters' after another, without exception though, jocular and friendly. At Beuyuk Kaimakli School a photographer just happened to be around and, at Palouriotissa, we updated Colonel Hew Butler (Greenjackets). We did a further circuit of the City where we could see smoke rising from burning houses to the North. Within the

Turkish Quarter, south of the Tekke in a large bare stony area, 28 newly dug (and filled) graves, the result of the fighting, stood out clearly. By 4o/c, the Minister was dropped off at the Palace, and Christopher and I back at the Cornaro”.

On 5th January, Michael Perrett-Young wrote '9.10 pm....things slackened yesterday and today. Popular with both sides at the moment, particularly in the Turkish parts of the Old City, Christopher Meynell and I have been welcomed with open arms - wanton destruction most depressing, and Ormophita looks like a scene from the American Civil War, with burnt and bullet marked houses, and barricades of sandbags in the streets flying bullet tattered Greek flags. City still dead along the Green Line, but Greek sector almost normal'.

A few days later Limassol became the centre of everyone's attention. Early in the afternoon the General with Clerides and Georgiadis, accompanied by Michael Perrett-Young and me, flew from the Cornaro to Limassol, to try to lower tension there - the Greeks would not stand-down.

We landed near the 'Nicosia Road' Police Station. Initially the atmosphere was fraught. Encouraged by Peter Young the two Ministers managed to persuade local Greek Police and 'Fighters' representatives to do as they were told (at least they said they would!). A message of reassurance was sent to the Turkish Community.

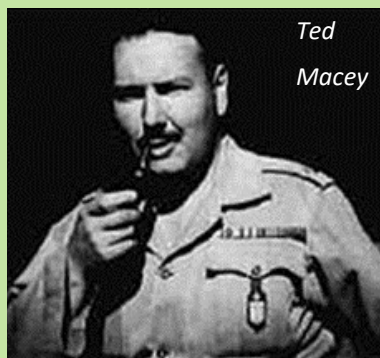
One of General Young's early decisions was to gather a group of linguists who would act swiftly to defuse potentially tricky situations. Here is a one such event:

“13 Jan, 0800. Maronites being abducted by Turks - crowds collected - dispersed by Macey”.

This laconic entry covered a major feat; The Maronites one of Cyprus's minority groups, were in a tricky position being a Christian Community that originated in Syria/Lebanon, with a religious affiliation to Rome but with a racial affinity with the Turks! The Turks, in their desperation, were more than edgy and the Maronites, by keeping their heads down and staying where they were, were an easy target for Turkish revenge.

An ugly mob had hounded them from their homes, to be chased . . . where? Violence was in the offing. Ted Macey (one of the linguists) learnt of this in the nick of time and sped to the scene with his driver, to castigate the would-be abductors and to lecture the mob on tolerance! Ted was some character, and I doubt if many others would have got away with it. Situation restored and all dispersed.

Of all the service personnel in Cyprus at the time, for whom these troubles seemed to have been tailor-



Ted
Macey

made, Ted Macey was the one. A fluent Turkish & Greek speaker (also Spanish & Italian), blackbelt judo, lethal knife-thrower and pistol-shot, adept in any skull-duggery in the offing. A stocky, granite-made man, totally professional with a wicked

sense-of-humour.

During the war he had served with the Resistance in Greece. Daily he came into the room I shared with Michael PY to report on his doings, peppered with glorious and often spine-chilling asides. But Ted knew too much and did too much - for his own good. In June 1964 he 'disappeared' and no evidence has come to light to prove what happened to him - with his driver Corporal Platt. Reportedly shot in a café, dropped in a well, then retrieved and ploughed into a field (a traditional Cypriot means of disposing of evidence!). But nobody is telling - still. Was he killed by Turkish Cypriots because he knew too much? Or by Greek Cypriots to be rid of a 'troublesome' investigator? Or to try to incite the other side? Or was it, as was alleged in the press, that he was passing British arms to the irregulars? He was a controversial character, both in his time and since. In my view he was a trustworthy warrior - unlike any other. A man to rely upon in an hour of need - better a friend than foe.

The following day was a period of intense activity for all at the HQ, in Episkopi and Dhekelia, and for troops on the ground. The Greek and Turkish Cypriots remained in a high state of excitement in anticipation of possible intervention by Greek and/or Turkish Mainland Armed Forces.

This meant a succession of calls on HQ from Government Ministers and officials, both Greek and Turkish; from individuals in towns and villages; from Embassies; from Commonwealth expatriates 'trapped' in their homes; from our own troops requiring information and/or action; from London and the High Commission, covering reports, intervention and protection to stop killings, rescue, and the delivery of food and supplies.

Additional briefings were demanded for official visitors from the United Kingdom and elsewhere, including the United States Army Attaché. All well worth doing, but it did take time. Non-stop action was the order of the day (& night), and our limited resources were very stretched - any thought of formal 'demarcation' of Staff responsibilities went by the board when urgent action was needed.



HQ staff (Greek, Turkish and British) outside the Cornaro Hotel - February 1964. (General Young is seated 8th from left. Christopher Meynell is standing 2nd from right)

There is much more to tell. Of shootings, of villages being evacuated, of late night emergencies, of idiocies, madness and frenzied activity; of worldwide deliberations; of panics and alarums. For Peter Young and I these went on until late February when we had to return to our "day-jobs" back in the relative calm of Episkopi Sovereign Base Area. For us things were never quite the same.

After our final Joint Force Head Quarters meeting in Nicosia, a telegram was sent out to all British parties involved in any way – British Govt departments, Embassies, and all military – from *“Commander British Forces Cyprus Air Chief Marshall Sir Denis Barnett sent the following personal message to General Peter Young, “The thoughts and the gratitude of everyone in this island gather this evening around this Joint Force Headquarters; around you, General Young, who formed it; around the stalwarts who have manned it under your hand since Christmas; around those, who under your command, have conducted the operations to keep the peace in this distracted island. You formed this HQ without assistance from outside because there was no time. You formed it from what you had at hand. I have called these people stalwarts. You and they are stalwarts indeed. No one who is properly knowledgeable about what you have done would, beforehand, have believed such sustained exertion to lie within the realms of human endeavour. Yet you have achieved it. I am proud and privileged to add my own tribute and my own thanks to the profoundly sincere sentiments of gratitude which so many share with me tonight and which history will, one day, unfold to the whole world.”*

One last - very much - afterthought: David Cameron, on becoming Prime Minister, ordered the assessment of many whose military service had been overlooked for recognition. The Arctic Convoy participants for instance, Bomber Command, the Yangtze Incident and Suez were some of the important ones. I was approached in 2013 by the body tasked to report to the PM and asked to contribute to the case for an award for the British involvement in Cyprus in 1986/3/4. Which I did.

In 2014, fifty years after the events I have described above, Parliament decreed and HM the Queen gave consent that *“Those servicemen who served in Cyprus during the period 21 December 1963 to 26 March 1964 will be awarded the General Service Medal with clasp “CYPRUS 1963-64”. Their case was not properly considered, if at all, at the time and the requirements for both risk and rigour were met.”*

(There had, in fact, been questions in Parliament in 1964 about such an award. The Minister of War, James Ramsden, who had just taken over from John Profumo, responded that it required further consideration. Perhaps because a General Election (forced on Prime Minister Harold Macmillan by “The Profumo Affair”) resulted in a change of Government, nothing further happened at that time).

To my mind those who established the Green Line went above and beyond the call of duty. Peter Young, almost single-handedly, prevented a major conflagration between two members of NATO. He, above all others, should have received recognition. He got nothing.

Notes:

- 1 Duncan Sandys was known in the military & High Commission irreverently as “Shrunken Hands”.
- 2 Robin Day was the undisputed giant of journalism and broadcasting of those times. His acerbic questioning, now the norm of modern TV and radio interviews, broke free from earlier rather fawning political interviews.

BERGH APTON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP AGM

From Linda Davy

BALHG held its annual general meeting in the village hall on 16th October. The guest speaker was Garry Tuson, Norfolk County Archivist whose Norfolk Record Office at County Hall holds a fascinating archive of many thousands of documents of relevance and of huge importance to understanding the past of our county and its people.

The key item on the agenda of the business meeting that preceded Garry's illustrated talk was the annual report on the Group's activities, delivered by its Chairman, Linda Davy:

“The Bergh Apton Local History Group has always concentrated on the research and collection of village history although, of course, we also enjoy a number of social events and other activities throughout the year.

We also meet with and assist visitors to the village seeking their ancestors. Members will recall that we had a pressing need to assemble all our records and artefacts under one roof and this year we have managed to achieve this. By the kind permission of the village hall committee we are now renting one of their huts and have somewhere secure and dry to store our material.

Our priority is to assess what we actually have and to this end we have begun a rough sort, putting material into general categories without any attempt to specifically record any individual piece. We do this at the village hall on the first Tuesday of the month from 1.30 until 4.00. You are warmly invited to drop in and help.

We are delighted to announce that we have been chosen to be one of the named partners in the “Community Archives: Skills, Support and Sustainability project” under the auspices of the Norfolk Record Office funded by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This means that in the New Year we will have the help and guidance of a community archivist together with some equipment to enable us to set up a professionally organised archive. This is an exciting development which will enable us to share our collection with the wider public.

The Remembrance Day service last November was very well attended and the inclusion of simulated gun fire signalling the end of the First World War was particularly effective.

This year's annual dinner revolved around the last invasion of Britain by a foreign army at Fishguard, unlike the invasion the dinner was a great success.

The Bring-and-Share film evening focused on changing farming practices through the decades and stirred many memories.

Our walking tour had to be cancelled but we hope to reinstate it next year. The joint summer outing with the Conservation Trust to Grimes Graves unfortunately took place on a very wet day so only a very small group went. As the flint mines and visitors' centre are under cover, the history group won the day although the brave Conservationists still managed to botanise despite the weather.

The annual opening of the Hare was able to revert back to the original site on the field and was held on a beautiful summer evening. Our thanks go to Bob Debbage for his tireless efforts in making sure the field was harvested in time, to Kevin Parfitt for the hay bales, to Mr and Mrs Walters for standing by as an alternative site if the weather prevented harvesting and for the willing team of helpers who assembled and dismantled the marquees.

Our last event of the year is the Indian evening on the 23rd of November, when Chris Johnson will talk about his latest Indian tour accompanied by a curry supper, tickets will be available soon.

I would like to thank John Ling and Sally Leigh for the production of the Bergh Apton newsletter and the committee members for their continuing help and support.

We would like to see still more newcomers at our meetings and guarantee a warm welcome to everyone. This is an exciting chapter in the continuing Book of Bergh Apton and I look forward to us all enjoying next year's activities”.

NOTEWORTHY PARISH TEAM SERVICE AT BERGH APTON - SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER 9.30am

One Sunday in every month Bergh Apton's church service is planned and led by two members of the "Parish Team" (regular members of the congregation, licensed to lead by the Bishop of Norwich).

No two services are the same although they roughly follow the Morning Prayer format. Each is based on a theme developed by the team members. One leads the service and the other presents - or invites a guest speaker to present - thoughts on the theme.

December's theme – "Bridge" - will reflect on the relationship between the Christian and Jewish faiths - and is an opportunity to hear Adrian Ing, of the Norwich Jewish community, our guest speaker.

Adrian will speak to us in Advent, as we approach the celebration of the birth of Jesus (who was, after all, a Jew). His observations on spiritual, ethical and social teachings common to Christianity and Judaism promise to be thought-provoking.

Adrian, who has been a nurse all his working life, is a former Chairman of the Norwich branch of the Council of Christians and Jews, Britain's oldest national inter-faith organisation. It aims to promote religious and cultural understanding between the faiths, to work for the elimination of religious and racial prejudice, and to promote religious and racial harmony. All have very real relevance, but perhaps especially now.

The service at Bergh Apton Church begins at 9.30 on Sunday 15th December. You may be sure of a warm welcome and there will be a cup of tea or coffee afterwards (and cakes!!!).

Chairman's Report

See page 13 of the Newsletter for a full transcript of Tony Davy's report to the AGM in September

Annual Programme for 2020

The Trustees are now compiling the Annual Programme for 2020 which we hope will be of interest. It will be circulated to the membership as soon as details are finalised.

For any queries please contact the Hon Secretary, Stephanie Crome, on 01508480573 or stephanie.crome@btinternet.com

DECORATING OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS Would you like to help on THURSDAY 19th DECEMBER?



Come and join us to decorate the church
for Christmas.

We will be there
from 9.30am
or just come for a cup of coffee and a mince pie.

BERGH APTON CONSERVATION TRUST UPDATE

<https://berghaptonconservationtrust.org>.

Workdays: Workdays are the third Saturday and following Thursday of each month. Meet at 10am on Church Field. *Please note that there will be no workdays in December.*

Fungus Foray: Sunday 20 October:

Three weeks of rain and mild weather resulted in a bumper year for fungi and consequently a very successful afternoon. There was a turnout of some twenty folk with a wide age range and Tony Leech was his usual informative self. He has provided a list of the finds which will eventually be available on the website.

Website

We have been experiencing some problems recently with the website but hope they will be resolved in the very near future.

Trustlands Film

Our film of the Reserve had its premiere at the AGM and was very well received. Copies are available on USB sticks and will be available to purchase for the princely sum of £5.00. The deadline for purchase is the end of the year.

Continued on next column . . .

Bergh Apton Church Crib Service



Christmas Eve 4 o'clock

*Come along to take part in
the wonderful Christmas story
for children of all ages
from toddlers to great (!) grandparents!*

HANDY DOMESTIC HINT

by Little Owl

To get more juice from a lemon (or any other citrus fruit) put in the microwave for 20-25 seconds on high. You'll be amazed how much extra juice you get!

THANKS FROM CHET VALLEY VINEYARD

from John and Bridget Hemmant

We would like to say a huge "thank you" to everyone who helped with the grape harvest at the Chet and Waveney Valley Vineyard in Bergh Apton this summer, picking grapes for the 2019 Vintage wines. It was lovely to spend time with you all and to welcome you to the vineyard.

With rain forecast it was a nail biting end to the season weather-wise, and we did have to dodge the rain drops for parts of the final harvest day!

Overall It was a successful year on the vineyard with good weather in the main. We had a lovely time this harvest with a good yield, comparable with last year. The Seyval Blanc was particularly good this year and John was also very pleased with the quality of our Solaris. The grapes are now pressed and happily fermenting away in the soon to be completed new winery.



CHET & WAVENEY VALLEY VINEYARD



Here is John and Bridget Hemmant's summary of success in international competition and progress for their Bergh Apton vineyard this year.

Awards

John had a good year with wine competitions in 2019. His Skylark sparkling wine, made in the charmat method, was commended in the international wine challenge (IWC) and in the Decanter world wine awards. His still wines – Swift white (Schoënburger) and Redwing rosé (Regent) wine both won Bronze in the Wine GB awards. John attended the Wine GB awards ceremony in July at Vintners Hall in London to collect the awards.



John receiving his award from broadcaster and Master of Wine Susie Barrie at Vintners Hall.

The new winery

Work has started on the new winery. There's still a way to go on this exciting project



and we look forward to its completion sometime in 2020.

The new Winery will provide an increased floor area for grape pressing, fermentation, bottling and storage of the wines. There will also be an area upstairs for visitors to sit outside on a balcony and enjoy the views across the vines whilst tasting wines from the vineyard.

Vineyard Tours and Wine Tastings

John has run several successful winemakers vineyard tours and wine tastings at the Vineyard this season.

... continued on p.14

BERGH APTON CONSERVATION TRUST – AGM, 25 September 2019

Chairman's Annual Report by Tony Davy

This year is the Trust's Silver Jubilee; it really is a quarter of a century since the first discussions that led to our foundation took place.

Our main celebratory event was on Saturday 20 July, when a guided walk around our nature reserve in the afternoon was followed by a bring-and-share supper at the village hall in the evening. At this, Tony Davy gave an illustrated presentation explaining the origins, history and remarkable achievements of the Trust.

We were delighted to have several of our far-sighted and public-spirited founders present. The other dimension to the celebrations has been commissioning a 20-minute video about our nature reserve. This permanent record provides both graphic testimony to our management successes and a virtual tour for anyone unable to visit in person. We are grateful to Graeme Taplin of Drone Photography Ltd for producing this video and hope you will enjoy its world premiere in a just a few minutes time.

The exciting development of the year is the Chet Valley B-Line. Populations of bees and other insects in Britain are declining at an alarming rate, posing a significant threat to British both conservation and agriculture. The cumulative effects of pesticides, habitat fragmentation and climate change are devastating. One remedy proposed by the charity Buglife is to establish nectar-rich (and otherwise wild-life friendly) corridors that link 'stepping-stones' of remaining biodiversity and allow dispersal across the countryside. Bergh Apton Conservation Trust has taken the lead in promoting a B-Line along the valley of the River Chet from Poringland to Hardley – the first one in Norfolk.

This is in collaboration with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and with support from Buglife, the Woodland Trust, local Parish Councils and private landowners, among others.

Helpful media coverage for the B-Line on Radio Norfolk 'Drive Time' and in the Eastern Daily Press arose from the talk given by Paul Hetherington of Buglife on 14 March. In July we were successful in obtaining a grant of £5,000 from *Water, Mills and Marshes: the Broads Landscape Partnership Scheme* to organise the B-Line and now look forward to a formal launch in the new year. It is being developed by a small management group comprising Tony Davy, Matt Jones (NWT), Rodney Aldiss, Bob Kerry (Treasurer) and Andrew Milner.

During the year, our nature reserve has been embellished with two splendid Interpretation boards to inform our visitors, one each at the entrances to Church Plantation and Valley Marsh. The dispensers they incorporate for our promotional leaflets and membership forms have already recruited some new members. We thank Kaarin Wall for the design and production of these boards, and also for the new edition of our leaflet. We had our usual full programme of events and meetings, including the regular monthly work days. After the last AGM, Andy Brazil, the County Butterfly Recorder gave us a beautifully illustrated talk on his charges. The expertise and communication skills of Dr Tony Leech on the fungus foray lived up to our perennially high expectations. The year finished with the ever-popular Christmas party at Flint Cottage.

Activities resumed in the spring with the annual village litter-pick afternoon. The pond dipping on 18 May was a great success, featuring once again our new pond. More than 30 adults and children enjoyed dipping for curiosities in the dykes and gin-clear water of the new pond – which admittedly wasn't gin-clear once a spot of paddling had been done. It is always a popular event, if the weather is kind. Only one person fell in! Bob Kerry found us more new hedges in the village to survey

and we had another two successful sessions this summer. The midsummer celebration and BBQ in the garden at Flint Cottage attracted only six members, including the hosts.

For a third time, we joined with the Bergh Apton Local History Group for our summer excursion. This time our luck with the weather ran out; it drizzled all day and only nine members attended. The historians won this year, as the flint mines and associated Interpretation Centre at Grimes Graves were under cover, but we did have a brief walk around the surrounding chalk grassland to see many Breckland speciality plants.

One of our better attended events was on a fine, slightly chilly evening in early September, when about 20 folk assembled in the Church Field to learn about bats. After an introductory talk we were led around the reserve enthusiastically by Ben Jervis and Christine Hipperson of *Bench Ecology* with various bat-detecting devices that rendered their calls audible. In addition to 'hearing' Daubenton's bats, Common and Soprano Pipistrelles, and the rare and declining Barbastelle, we were enchanted by dozens of flashing glow-worms in the vegetation around the new pond. The prize for best exhibit went to Chris Johnson, who produced mummified Brown Long-eared and Common Pipistrelle bats (found dead in his garden) for people to examine and handle.

We enjoy continued contact with Brooke Scout Group. Appropriate to the various age groups (from 5 to c. 16), their visits incorporate observations of different flora and fauna, with work on the Trust lands. This year, using materials from our own woodland management, their labours were mainly repair of badly deteriorated steps. This facilitates access for bat walks, fungus forays and the like.

Young Explorers from the Wheatfen Forest School have enjoyed another couple of visits to the reserve to explore it further.

We still benefit from the occasional visit from young offenders and their supervisor, Richard. Their contribution on workdays is invaluable, and Richard sometimes comes to lend a hand even if he has no youngster to oversee. We were very grateful for their help when pulling Himalayan Balsam in August – hard work on a very hot day.

Overall, it has been a remarkably successful and eventful year leaving the Trust in a strong position for exciting developments, both in the near future and over the next 25 years.

**Alpington & Bergh Apton Primary School**

Christmas Fayre
Saturday 30th November
12 – 3pm

Rudolph Raffle
Jingle Bells Cafe

Activities for all the family

Meet Father Christmas in his fabulous Grotto

Gifts & Stalls

Face Painting



Come and join in the fun, everyone is welcome
Kindly sponsored by Winkworth, Poringland

Winkworth

. continued from p.12

The new season will start in April and runs through to late September when it will be harvest time again. The wine tastings in 2020 will take place in the new winery.



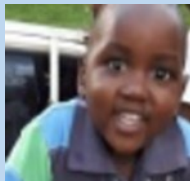
(left) John leads a vineyard tour at Chet and Waveney Valley followed by (below) a tasting at the winery



If you'd like to be involved with the Vineyard and Winery, you can get in touch with John Hemmant on **01508 333002** or by email at:

info@chetvineyard.co.uk

You'll find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



This Christmas, please support Rescued babies from Kampala, Uganda at



SANYU BABIES HOME

Please give via Liz Meynell in Bergh Apton or buy plants at Applebee in Rockland from John & Ruth EVERETT.

Thank you to all who continue with much needed support you pay for a Doctor & two Resident Nurses.

You help keep the Babies Healthy.

Information on SANYU from Liz Meynell (558440): lizmeynell@gmail.com or

The Everetts: everettapplebee@hotmail.co.uk
Regular Newsletters will keep you in touch.

A gift in sterling goes a long way.

Do add SANYU to your Christmas list, please.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AT BERGH APTON



It was a cold but brilliant sunny day on Sunday 10th November. Well over one hundred people came to the parish church of St Peter & St Paul for our annual Service of Remembrance.

The focal point of the service, the familiar but always moving ceremony of the Act of Remembrance unfolded at the memorial in the churchyard as the bugle call "Last Post" sounded across Bergh Apton's fields before silence fell for two minutes in which the assembled congregation followed their own thoughts on the wars that killed fifty-one men of Bergh Apton.

This year the poppy wreaths in their memory on behalf of the community were laid by Cdr Peter Barfoot, Captain-designate of HMS Dauntless and Marine Christian Hemmant of Royal Marines. Poppy crosses were planted for each man as the Roll was called by Chris Johnson (for WW1) and bugler Bob Kerry (for WW2).

This very essence of Remembrance done, the congregation returned to the church for the second part of the service,

Major Tom Clark of The Adjutant General's Corps read the Lesson and Revd Dr Andrew Sangster, who lead the service, delivered a thoughtful and provocative sermon that focussed on Nationalism and Politics as the primary causes for war.



Christopher Meynell (r) reads the salutation "They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old".

AN ICONIC BLETCHLEY PARK NAME IN BERGH APTON

Three people with Bergh Apton links, sadly no longer with us, worked at wartime Bletchley Park the now-famous but then ultra-secretive establishment near the modern town of Milton Keynes that broke German Army, Navy and Luftwaffe codes. Josie Burgess (née Lester) was one, Linda (Anthea Stewart and Justin Barnard's mother) was another and Linda's schoolfriend Phyllis Ride was the third.

Members of Bergh Apton Local History Group who went to Bletchley Park with Phyllis in the Summer of 2008 will recall that she was feted there and presented with a medal to recognise her value as one of the German-



Phyllis (arrowed above) at Bletchley Park during the war - maybe celebrating the end of the war, we think) and (left) with Linda Davy at the house, sixty-three years later in 2008 with, behind her, Hut 4 and members of the BALHG party that went with her

speaking interpreters of German Navy messages, working in the famous Hut 4 (now Bletchley Park museum's restaurant and bar).

BALHG members working on the Group's archive in their new home in the storage facilities at the Village Hall noticed that the Store they have been given by the Hall's



Hut 5 (left) is now Hut 4 and old Hut 4 (right) is Hut 5

Trustees at a peppercorn rent has the number 5 on the door and the adjacent storage unit (for the Village Hall's outdoor tables and folding chairs and some Fete paraphernalia) is identified as Hut 4.

It was inspiration that led BALHG to ask the Village Hall committee if the two numbers could be exchanged - so that the Archive Store could carry No 4 to recognise (albeit in a slightly quirky way) the part played by Phyllis Rid, one of the Bletchley Park heroines of WW2, in creating the Group and helping to bring early elements of this Archive together.

BERGH APTON'S CANDLE-LIT CAROL SERVICE Sunday 22nd December is at 6 o'clock



ALL WARMLY WELCOMED!

BISHOP GRAHAM'S RIDE TO HIS ENTHRONEMENT



Graham, the 72nd Bishop of Norwich went to the Cathedral on Saturday 9th Nov for his enthronement riding in a carriage-and-pair,

courtesy of Karl Harvey of Street Farm in Bergh Apton!

Bishop Graham, keen to deliver a message about the values of his mainly-rural See that covers Norfolk hoped that it would be delivered by his horse-drawn ride from his home on Palace Road, round into the Erpingham Gate and to the Great West door of the cathedral.

The help was provided by Karl and his wife Becks, well-known in Norfolk and well-beyond for their work with their black pair of black Shire horses George and Thomas that many of you will know from seeing them in the paddocks at Street Farm.

The Bishop's preferred choice of vehicle, a haywain, was ruled out because of forecast bad weather on the day so he rode in a carriage that Karl drives for weddings, funerals and other ceremonial occasions.

George and Thomas, attended by their groom Georgia, behaved perfectly for the occasion.

The new Bishop will, we hope, honour Bergh Apton in due time with a visit to our church (where, incidentally, his predecessor Bishop John Thomas Pelham, at one time our Rector, is buried in the churchyard).

Wouldn't it be fine if he chose to arrive at the church drawn once more by Karl and Becks' beautiful black Shires George and Thomas?



George and Thomas, tended by Georgia and driven by Karl, safely deliver Bishop Graham to the Cathedral's West Door

DIARY 2019/2020

DECEMBER

- 4th 10.00-16.00 Christmas Wreath Workshop
at the Village Hall
- 6th 19.00 for 19.30 Christmas Bingo at Village Hall
- 8th 12.30 Christmas Lunch at the Village Hall
- 13th 17.15 B A Society Cromer End of Pier Show
meet at the Village Hall car park
- 18th 19.00 for 19.30 B.A. Society Christmas dinner
at Green Pastures
- 19th 09.30-12 Decorate the Church for Christmas
- 20th 19.30 BACT Christmas Party at Flint Cottage
- 22nd 18.00 Carol Service at the Parish Church
- 24th 16.00 Crib Service at th Parish Church

JANUARY

- 1st 09.30 New Year Breakfast at the Village Hall
- 7th 19.30 Parish Council meets at the Village Hall
- 8th 19.30 B.A. Society – Talk by Robert Knee on
“Edward Paston & the Secret Music”
at the village hall
- 12th 11.00 Unity Service at B.A. Church followed by
Bring & Share lunch at Village Hall
- 15th 10.00-12.00 Coffee n Chat at Village Hall
- 18th 10.00 BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field
- 23rd 10.00 BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field
- 25th 09.00 11 Says assembly at B.A.Village Hall
- 28th 12.30 Tuesday Friends at Parish Church

POPPY ANNIS

The obituary of Poppy Annis is on p.2 of this edition. Peter and the family have asked us to bear a message from all of them to thank those many people who came to Poppy's funeral in Bergh Apton and to apologise to those whom they were not able to see and thank personally both for helping to celebrate Poppy's life and for supporting the family. You gave them comfort in a time of great sadness.

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Please let me have Articles and Contributions
for the February-March 2020 issue by end of
10th January 2020
email to john.ling@btinternet.com

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	1700 onwards	DOG TRAINING Village Hall
every other Tuesday	1000-1300	PAINTING CLASS Village Hall
Tuesday	1930	SING-A-LONG Village Hall
Friday	1000 - 1145	YOGA Village Hall

USEFUL CONTACTS

BACAT workshops	Pat Mlejnecky	01508 480696
Conservation Trust	Stephanie Crome	01508 480573
Local History	John Ling	01508 480439
Village Hall	Hilary Ling	01508 480439
Sing-a-Long	Karen Bonsall	07900 968739
Painting Class	Barbara Fox	01508 550168
BA Society	Linton Johnson	01508 480629
Archery	Bob Kerry	01508 480661

A BIG THANK YOU

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Bergh Apton Community Arts Trust

Bergh Apton Conservation Trust

Bergh Apton & District Society

Bergh Apton Local History Group

Bergh Apton Parish Council

Bergh Apton Parochial Church Council

Bergh Apton Village Hall Trust

Chet & Waveney Valley Vineyard

Country Holiday Cottages Norfolk Ltd